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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 28 Feb. 1952

SUBJECT Rocket Installation at Peenemuende

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIREDDATE OF
INFO.

REFERENCE COPY

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

CIRCULATE

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

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1. In May 1947 the Russians brought 25 German technicians to work on Pruefstand 7. These specialists had worked there during the war and had been collected after the war by the Russians in various parts of the Russian Zone of Germany. Working in conjunction with Russian engineers, they had the task of reconstructing one complete rocket launching installation (Brennstuhl) from the several others demolished in 1946 at Pruefstand 7. At the same time the plans of one rocket launching installation were reconstructed in the Research Institute. This work was completed in approximately March 1950, when the rocket launching installation was dismantled and taken to Russia accompanied by the plans and some of the German specialists. The rest of the German technicians were dismissed.
2. No other work was done at Pruefstand 7 until 18/19 January 1951, when demolitions were undertaken there. On 18 January 1951, the Zinnowitz Fire Brigade was called out by the Russians at Peenemuende and transported under heavy guard to a fire. Despite Russian precautions it became clear that a section of the woods was on fire in the immediate vicinity of Pruefstand 7. Once the fire had been got under control the Fire Brigade was returned to Zinnowitz under heavy guard. On 20 January, the Russian personnel which had been stationed there left for an unknown destination.
3. An observation of Pruefstand 7 carried out on 10 October 1951 showed all installations to have been completely destroyed, even to the inclusion of the concrete slabs which had supported the rocket launching rails, and of the concrete space from where the rockets had been launched. The Research Institute was unoccupied and such fittings as doors and windows had been removed.

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